CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A logical device for handling dynamic attributes in a static directory comprising:

a set of attribute declarations containing at least one declaration

for an attribute to be handled as a dynamic attribute;

at least one Real-time Attribute Processor (RTAP) configured to determine

a dynamic value for an attribute declared as being dynamic in said set of attribute

declarations;

an RTAP selector configured to select and invoke an RTAP according to a

predetermined selection schema; and

a directory attribute processor configured to parse requests for access to

directory attribute values, to detect requests for attributes declared as dynamic in

said attribute declarations, to operate said RTAP selector to invoke a

corresponding RTAP, to receive an attribute value determined by said invoked

RTAP, and to return said attribute value to a requester.

2.   The logical device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said directory attribute

processor is further adapted to suppress storage of said attribute value in a

directory.

3.   The logical device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said RTAP selector is adapted

to select an RTAP based upon a variation of a name of said requested directory

attribute.

5   4.   The logical device as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said name variation comprises a

name identifying a function selected from the group of a logical device, a device

address, a name of a JAVA class, a name of a UNIX shared object, and a name of

a dynamically linked library module.

10   5.   The logical device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said RTAP comprises a

function selected from the group of a logical device, a device address, a name of a

JAVA class, a name of a UNIX shared object, and a name of a dynamically linked

library module.

15   6.   The logical device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said RTAP and said directory

attribute processor are configured to handle Lightweight Directory Access

Protocol requests for attribute values.

7.   The logical device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said directory attribute

20   processor is configured to disallow attribute modify requests for attributes

declared as dynamic.

8.   A method for handling dynamic attributes in a static directory server comprising:

providing at least one declaration for an attribute to be handled as a

5   dynamic attribute in association with a set of directory attribute declarations;

parsing requests for access to directory attribute values to detect requests

for attributes declared as dynamic in said attribute declarations;

invoking at least one Real-time Attribute Processor (RTAP) selected

according to a predetermined selection schema, said RTAP being configured to

10   determine a dynamic value for an attribute declared as being dynamic in said set

of attribute declarations, said dynamic value being unavailable from said static

directory; and

returning to a requester an attribute value determined by said invoked

RTAP.

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9.   The method as set forth in Claim 8 wherein said step of selecting and invoking a

RTAP selector comprises selecting an RTAP based upon a variation of a name of

said requested directory attribute.

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10.   The method as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said step of selecting an RTAP based

upon an attribute name variation comprises selecting an RTAP from the group of

a logical device, a device address, a name of a JAVA class, a name of a UNIX

shared object, and a name of a dynamically linked library module.

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11.   The method as set forth in Claim 8 wherein said step of invoking an RTAP

comprises invoking an RTAP from the group of a logical device, a device address,

a name of a JAVA class, a name of a UNIX shared object, and a name of a

dynamically linked library module.

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12.   The method as set forth in Claim 8 wherein said step of parsing a request

comprises parsing a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol requests for attribute

values.

15   13.   The method as set forth in Claim 8 wherein said step of returning to a requester an

attribute value comprising returning said value according to a Lightweight

Directory Access Protocol.

14.   A computer-readable medium encoded with software for handling dynamic

attributes in a static directory server, said software performing the steps

comprising:

            providing at least one declaration for an attribute to be handled as a

5   dynamic attribute in association with a set of directory attribute declarations;

            parsing requests for access to directory attribute values to detect requests

for attributes declared as dynamic in said attribute declarations;

            invoking at least one Real-time Attribute Processor (RTAP) selected

according to a predetermined selection schema, said RTAP being configured to

10   determine a dynamic value for an attribute declared as being dynamic in said set

of attribute declarations, said dynamic value being unavailable from said static

directory; and

            returning to a requester an attribute value determined by said invoked

RTAP.

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15.   The medium as set forth in Claim 14 wherein said software for selecting and

invoking an RTAP selector comprises software for selecting an RTAP based upon

a variation of a name of said requested directory attribute.

16.   The medium as set forth in Claim 15 wherein said software for selecting an RTAP

based upon an attribute name variation comprises software for selecting an RTAP

from the group of a logical device, a device address, a name of a JAVA class, a

name of a UNIX shared object, and a name of a dynamically linked library

5   module.

17.   The medium as set forth in Claim 14 wherein said software for invoking an RTAP

comprises software for invoking an RTAP from the group of a logical device, a

device address, a name of a JAVA class, a name of a UNIX shared object, and a

10   name of a dynamically linked library module.

18.   The medium as set forth in Claim 14 wherein said software for parsing a request

comprises software for parsing a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol requests

for attribute values.

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19.   The medium as set forth in Claim 14 wherein said software for returning to a

requester an attribute value comprising software for returning said value

according to a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.

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